

MEDICAL CARE ONBOARD TRAINING (5)

The subject "Medical Care Onboard" for Navigation students aims at familiarizing and training the future specialists in rendering emergency first-aid medical assistance to injured crew members or passengers, as well as assessing the implications of already present diseases or accidents onboard ships where there is no professional doctor available.

Having the knowledge of the basic anatomical and physiological characteristics of the human body, the person rendering first aid (in this case the ship's Navigator) must be able to attend to diseases and conditions so much so that prior to the arrival of a professional doctor, the injured will have received adequate care relevant to the disease, without endangering the life of others, including the life of the first-aider or worsening the condition of the patient. Through lectures and laboratory exercises, the Navigators are acquainted with those cardiovascular, pulmonary, digestive and urinary system diseases requiring urgent intervention by a non-medical person for the purpose of preserving the patient's life. Incidents such as traumas, fractures, poisonings, bites, burns, frostbite, heat and sunstrokes, acute and chronic bleeding require urgent and adequate intervention to help the victim before any professional medical assistance is provided. Acute and chronic diseases involving pain and suffering as well as unconscious conditions also require adequate intervention before a professional doctor arrives or until the condition has been dealt with without the need for professional medical assistance.

The training includes knowledge of the basic pharmacological groups of drugs as well as the required medical equipment available onboard different ships.

Primary topics in the training include:

- diseases
- accidents
- damage